United Nations S/2002/825

Security Council

Distr.: General
24 July 2002

Original: English

Report of the Committee on the Admission of New Members concerning the application of the Swiss Confederation for admission to membership in the United Nations

1. At the 4584th meeting on 24 July 2002, the Security Council had before it the application of the Swiss Confederation (S/2002/801) for admission to membership in the United Nations. In accordance with rule 59 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council and in the absence of a proposal to the contrary, the President of the Council referred the application to the Committee on the Admission of New Members for examination and report.

2. At its 106th meeting on 24 July 2002, the Committee considered the application of the Swiss Confederation and unanimously decided to recommend to the Security Council that the Swiss Confederation should be admitted to membership in the United Nations.

3. Accordingly, the Committee recommends to the Security Council the adoption of the following draft resolution:

> "*The Security Council*,
>
> "*Having examined* the application of the Swiss Confederation for admission to the United Nations (S/2002/801),
>
> "*Recommends* to the General Assembly that the Swiss Confederation be admitted to membership in the United Nations."

02-49416 (E) 240702

United Nations S/2002/826

Security Council

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25 July 2002

Original: English

Letter dated 23 July 2002 from the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1132 (1997) concerning Sierra Leone addressed to the President of the Security Council

On behalf of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1132 (1997) concerning Sierra Leone, I have the honour to convey herewith a note verbale dated 22 July 2002 from the Permanent Mission of Sierra Leone to the United Nations, forwarding the fourth review of the Certificate of Origin regime for the export of Sierra Leone diamonds as prepared by the Government of Sierra Leone in compliance with paragraph 2 of resolution 1306 (2000) (see annex).

The Committee would appreciate it if the attached letter, together with its enclosure, could be brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council and issued as a document of the Security Council.

It should also be noted that the following related communications, S/2000/966, S/2000/1151, S/2001/127, S/2001/300, S/2001/794 and S/2002/38, were issued previously.

(*Signed*) Adolfo Aguilar **Zinser**
Chairman
Security Council Committee established pursuant
to resolution 1132 (1997) concerning Sierra Leone

02-49781 (E) 260702

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Annex

Note verbale dated 22 July 2002 from the Permanent Mission of Sierra Leone to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1132 (1997) concerning Sierra Leone

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Sierra Leone to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1132 (1997) concerning Sierra Leone and has the honour to forward herewith the fourth review of the Certificate of Origin regime for the export of Sierra Leone diamonds (June 2002) (see enclosure).

Enclosure

Implementation of United Nations Security Council resolution 1306 (2000)

Fourth review of the Certificate of Origin regime for the export of Sierra Leone Diamonds
June 2002

A. Introduction

1. This, the fourth review of the operations of the Certificate of Origin established under Security Council resolution 1306(2000), was due in March 2002. However, during the past several months the Government of Sierra Leone has responded to requests from the Security Council Committee concerning Sierra Leone, on a number of specific issues relating to the operations of the certification regime. The decision of the Committee to deal directly with the Government and to request clarification on such issues has opened an important channel of communication to supplement the formal reviews submitted periodically by the Government.

2. The recent visit of the Chairman of the Committee, Ambassador Adolfo A. Zinser to West Africa, including Sierra Leone, has also provided an opportunity for the Committee to be apprised of the current situation and some of the problems associated with the implementation of the certification system.

B. Status of the Certificate of Origin system

3. A total of 325 (three hundred and twenty-five) certificates have been issued since the system came into operation in October 2000, as part of the international effort to end transaction in conflict or "blood diamonds." Unfortunately, digital photographs of the diamonds presented to the Government Gold and Diamond Office (GGDO), are still being transmitted electronically to only two importing countries, Belgium and Israel. Extension of this important element of the certification system to the United States and other countries has still not materialized. Nevertheless, the Government continues to fulfill its obligations under the regime by ensuring that digital photographs of all diamonds presented to the GGDO for valuation and export to any part of the world, accompany every parcel exported from Sierra Leone.

C. Other Measures

4. Within two months of the formal declaration of an end to the armed conflict in Sierra Leone in January 2002, Government authority had been established all over the country. This opened the way for further extension and updated regulations in the mining sector to those areas previously occupied illegally by the rebels.

(a) Mining

5. The first priority has been to install surveillance and monitoring mechanisms in those areas, particularly in Kono and Tongo, where indiscriminate and illegal mining activities were conducted to fuel the conflict in the form of "arms for diamonds." The major mining sections of both Kono and Tongo now have a full complement of Field Officers from the Ministry of Mineral Resources. The Police and other law enforcement agents provide security support.

6. Licences are being issued for all mining activities in the areas concerned. In order to ensure greater participation by local inhabitants, Chiefdom committees have also been created to screen prospective licence holders. This new development also ensures that an orderly process is put in place to examine old personal and other claims to mining sections. The Paramount Chief serves as chair of the Chiefdom Committee which comprises five persons, with the Government Mining Engineer serving as technical adviser to the Committee.

(b) Marketing

7. Traditionally, marketing has been the area which poses the greatest number of problems due to the nature of diamonds and their susceptibility to illicit activities. During the period under review, there has been a marked improvement in the volume and quality of diamonds processed through the certification system. This is due not only to the extension of Government authority over the main diamond producing areas of the country, but also to the quality of stones derived from those areas. The improved surveillance and monitoring mechanism has had a significant impact on the legitimate transaction in diamonds, and in reducing illicit activities.

8. In order to maintain the highest level of transparency in marketing, the agreement with the former evaluators has been terminated for unprofessional conduct on their part. A new team of Independent Diamond Evaluators has replaced them.

D. Contribution of the Certificate of Origin regime to mining community development

9. Although the objective of the certification system is to end the trade in conflict or "blood" diamonds, the Government of Sierra Leone continues to take measures to provide incentives at the community level that would discourage illicit mining and transaction in the diamond producing areas. The idea is that local communities should benefit directly from mining activities conducted in those areas. The Government considers that this initiative which is outside the scope of resolution 1306 (2000) is another contribution to the implementation of the certification regime.

10. The Mining Community Development Fund, instituted by the Government some time ago, is now a permanent feature in the mining industry. Funds continue to be

reserved in this account for distribution to the appropriate Chiefdoms for community-based development projects. These amounts are disbursed in proportion to the number of licences issued in each Chiefdom. The Ministry of Mineral Resources has now made it a requirement that all recipient Chiefdoms should show proof of the utilization of amounts previously disbursed to them, before further disbursements are made.

D. Conclusions

11. The Government of Sierra Leone has scrupulously, and within its means and capabilities, fulfilled its obligations under resolution 1306 (2000). It has even performed over and beyond the requirements of the resolution, and has made a distinctive contribution to the success of the certification system within its borders. Reports of lapses, which the Government has addressed in relevant communication with the Committee, should in no way cast any shadow of doubt on the determination of the Government to meet its commitments under the regime, or on the efficacy of its national certification system. Certification has become the norm for exporters.

12. It should be pointed out that of the 325 certificates issued so far, only five, sent through Belgium, were the subject of queries or 'difficulties'. This is less than 2% of the total number of certificates sent to Belgium and less than 2% of the number of certificates issued by the GGDO. Moreover, the total caratage and value of diamonds covered by the five problem cases were 549.99 carats valued at $128,320.21, This should be compared with the total caratage of 408,689.02 carats, worth $48.6 million, already exported under the certification system. (See attached table of exports)

13. As a result of the end of hostilities, and the successful disarmament and demobilization of ex-combatants, the question arises as to whether the concept of 'conflict' or 'blood' diamonds still applies to the situation in Sierra Leone. In other words, does the end of the conflict in the country mean that its diamonds are no longer used in exchange for weapons to fuel armed rebellion within Sierra Leone?

14. Of course the Government continues to face problems of illicit production and smuggling of diamonds, problems that could be traced back to the inception of the diamond mining industry in Sierra Leone and long before the concept of 'conflict' or 'blood' diamonds emerged.

15. The Government believes that while the illicit trade in diamonds may no longer be playing any role in armed conflict in Sierra Leone, illicit trade in diamonds continues to have a negative impact on the country's economic and social development programmes. It is in its own national interest to take firm action to deal with smuggling within its borders.

16. While the certification system has reduced the incidence of illicit transactions in Sierra Leone diamonds, the fact that quantities of diamonds are transacted illegally should not be attributed to so-called "leaks" in the Sierra Leone certification system.

Resolution 1306 (2000) and the certification system were not conceived as permanent one-time solutions to the smuggling of Sierra Leone diamonds.

17. Any objective and realistic evaluation of the system as it pertains to Sierra Leone should take into consideration *inter alia*, the nature of the product and the complexity of *international* diamond transactions beyond the borders of Sierra Leone. While it acknowledges its responsibility to curb smuggling, effective implementation of the certification regime, and efforts to curb the illicit trade in diamonds, also depend on the cooperation of all States. Its own efforts are intricately linked with those of other States and entities.

18. As observed in paragraph 3 above, only two countries are electronically linked with the GGDO to receive digital photographs of Sierra Leone diamonds exported through the national certificate system. For its part, the UN General Assembly has recognized that even a system of so-called voluntary self-regulating initiatives will contribute to ensuring the effectiveness of national systems of internal controls for rough diamonds.[1]

19. In this regard, it is relevant to note that resolution 1306(2000), calls upon all States, in particular those through which rough diamonds from Sierra Leone were known to transit, and all relevant international and regional organizations, to strictly comply with the provisions of the resolution.

20. The Government recalls that the Security Council has welcomed the establishment of a certificate regime in relation to Guinea's exports of rough diamonds, and the continued efforts of ECOWAS as well as West African countries, towards developing a region-wide certification regime.[2] It also emphasized the responsibility of all member States, including diamond importing countries, to fully implement the measures in resolution 1306 (2000). The Council recently reiterated its call for the establishment of an effective certificate of origin regime for Liberian rough diamonds that is transparent and internationally verifiable.

21. Underlining the importance of concerted international efforts in support of national certification systems, the Security Council is also looking forward to the full implementation of the international certification scheme proposed by the Kimberly Process, as soon as possible.[3]

22. The Government of Sierra Leone is encouraged by the measures taken by States and relevant organizations since its previous review of the certification regime, to facilitate implementation of resolution 1306 (2000), and to assist in strengthening the Government's monitoring and intelligence capacity to deal with the problems of smuggling of the country's diamonds.

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[1] General Assembly resolution 56/263.
[2] Resolution 1385 (2001).
[3] Resolution 1408 (2002).

Attachment 1

DIAMOND EXPORTS UNDER CERTIFICATION REGIME
2000 / 2001/2002

YEAR	MONTHS	TOTAL CARATS	VALUES ($)	PRICE/CARAT
2000	OCTOBER	28,450.60	4,470,424.41	157.13
	NOVEMBER	12,128.75	1,079,695.58	89.02
	DECEMBER	9,702.16	983,014.60	101.32
2001	JANUARY	13,486.10	1,991,773.84	147.7
	FEBRUARY	15,384.67	1,909,276.29	124.1
	MARCH	20,055.63	2,685,334.87	133.89
	APRIL	14,440.58	1,821,327.48	126.13
	MAY	16,996.96	2,156,766.00	126.9
	JUNE	15,662.29	2,154,917.36	137.67
	JULY	18,161.11	2,154,868.90	118.64
	AUGUST	16,509.67	2,280,402.42	138.13
	SEPTEMBER	29,706.68	2,194,349.36	73.87
	OCTOBER	24, 097.92	2,488,445.46	103.26
	NOVEMBER	21,368.88	2,152,522.96	100.78
	DECEMBER	16,689.34	2,032,708.34	121.94
2002	JANUARY	20,890.75	1,436,569.50	68.77
	FEBRUARY	16,988.55	1,782,848.73	04.94
	MARCH	13,280.94	1,590,819.50	19.78
	APRIL	25,761.72	3,772,768.35	46.45
	MAY	29,781.27	3,241,943.81	08.86
	JUNE	29,184.45	4,196,749.43	143.8
	TOTAL	408,689.02	48,577,326.18	18.86

Attachment 2

Security Council
4589th meeting

25 July 2002

List of speakers

Members	Rule 37	Rule 39
Syrian Arab Republic Cameroon Singapore Guinea Colombia Norway Bulgaria China Mauritius Mexico United States of America France Russian Federation Ireland United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Jamaica Chile Canada Republic of Korea Denmark Nigeria Australia New Zealand Japan Liechtenstein Grenada	Mr. Jean-Marie Guéhenno, Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations Ms. Angela King, Assistant Secretary-General and Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women Ms. Noeleen Heyzer, Executive Director of the United Nations Development Fund for Women

United Nations A/ES-10/185–S/2002/827

General Assembly
Security Council

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23 July 2002

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General Assembly
Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Fifty-seventh year

Identical letters dated 23 July 2002 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Israeli war crimes and State terrorism against the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, continue to escalate. In the pre-dawn hours (Palestine time) of today, an Israeli F-16 war plane fired a missile at a three-storey apartment building in the area of Yarmouk in northern Gaza City. This air strike killed 15 Palestinians and wounded more than 150 people. Among those killed in the attack were nine infants and children, ranging between the ages of two months and 13 years. In addition to the human devastation, the building hit, as well as at least four other homes, was destroyed in the attack on this densely populated civilian neighbourhood.

Israel, the occupying Power, declared that this military attack was in fact carried out as a targeted killing. This repugnant practice of extrajudiciary execution has been repeatedly condemned by the international community and constitutes a war crime. Today, however, the occupying Power took this practice to a new, extreme level, as the occupying forces knowingly and deliberately killed innocent civilians in the attack along with the target person, Salah Shehada. Clearly, there was no way that such a military strike would not produce such tragic results in terms of civilian deaths and injuries and physical destruction.

This Israeli assault represents the first blatant war crime committed by the Israeli occupying forces since the entry into force this month of the International Criminal Court. This action definitely falls within the jurisdiction of the court and, as such, measures to bring the perpetrators to justice should be taken. At the same time, this latest Israeli war crime was committed at a time when serious efforts were being undertaken to curb the violence and restore some cooperative measures between the two sides. Obviously, the Israeli Prime Minister, Ariel Sharon, who labelled the crime a "great success", is once more trying his utmost to prevent any progress towards restoring a meaningful, peaceful process. Mr. Sharon and his lieutenants must be held responsible for such actions and the ensuing results.

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The above-mentioned Israeli war crime comes after the recent demolition of the homes of families of suspected Palestinian suicide bombers as well as a series of threats by Israeli officials to deport some or all of those family members. Such actual or threatened measures are illegal and prohibited under the Fourth Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, which is applicable to all of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem. Further, they represent a collective punishment as well as a war crime under international humanitarian law and the statute of the International Criminal Court, and the international community is obligated to take measures against the perpetrators of these crimes.

All of the above is happening while the Israeli occupying forces continue with their reoccupation of most Palestinian cities and towns in the occupied West Bank. The military siege of those areas, including round-the-clock curfews, lifted only intermittently, has confined hundreds of thousands of Palestinians to their homes and has compounded the economic and social devastation already caused by continuous closure and severe restrictions on the movement of persons and goods and the widespread physical destruction. At the same time, the Israeli military siege on the headquarters of President Yasser Arafat in Ramallah continues, seriously obstructing the work of the Palestinian Authority.

All of these Israeli violations and crimes are suffocating and indeed killing any potential for peace between the two sides. Moreover, the tragic situation caused by the continuing Israeli occupation and the incessant military assaults and the resulting humanitarian crisis being faced by the Palestinian people is being further exacerbated while the international community continues to stand idly by, turning a blind eye to the devastation and destruction being wrought by the Israeli occupying forces against the Palestinian people.

In follow-up to my previous 131 letters to you regarding the ongoing crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, dated from 29 September 2000 to 28 June 2002 (A/55/432-S/2000/921; A/55/437-S/2000/930; A/55/450-S/2000/957; A/55/466-S/2000/971; A/55/474-S/2000/984; A/55/490-S/2000/993; A/ES-10/39-S/2000/1015; A/ES-10/40-S/2000/1025; A/ES-10/42-S/2000/1068; A/ES-10/43-S/2000/1078; A/ES-10/44-S/2000/1093; A/ES-10/45-S/2000/1104; A/ES-10/46-S/2000/1107; A/ES-10/47-S/2000/1116; A/ES-10/48-S/2000/1129; A/ES-10/49-S/2000/1154; A/ES-10/50-S/2000/1173; A/ES-10/51-S/2000/1185; A/ES-10/52-S/2000/1206; A/ES-10/53-S/2000/1247; A/ES-10/54-S/2001/7; A/ES-10/55-S/2001/33; A/ES-10/56-S/2001/50; A/ES-10/57-S/2001/101; A/ES-10/58-S/2001/131; A/ES-10/59-S/2001/156; A/ES-10/60-S/2001/175; A/ES-10/61-S/2001/189; A/ES-10/64-S/2001/209; A/ES-10/65-S/2001/226; A/ES-10/66-S/2001/239; A/ES-10/67-S/2001/255; A/ES-10/68-S/2001/284; A/ES-10/69-S/2001/295; A/ES-10/70-S/2001/304; A/ES-10/71-S/2001/314; A/ES-10/72-S/2001/332; A/ES-10/75-S/2001/352; A/ES-10/76-S/2001/372; A/ES-10/79-S/2001/418; A/ES-10/80-S/2001/432; A/ES-10/81-S/2001/447; A/ES-10/82-S/2001/463; A/ES-10/83-S/2001/471; A/ES-10/84-S/2001/479; A/ES-10/85-S/2001/486; A/ES-10/86-S/2001/496; A/ES-10/87-S/2001/504; A/ES-10/88-S/2001/508; A/ES-10/89-S/2001/544; A/ES-10/90-S/2001/586; A/ES-10/91-S/2001/605; A/ES-10/92-S/2001/629; A/ES-10/93-S/2001/657; A/ES-10/94-S/2001/669; A/ES-10/95-S/2001/686; A/ES-10/96-S/2001/697; A/ES-10/97-S/2001/708; A/ES-10/98-S/2001/717; A/ES-10/99-S/2001/742; A/ES-10/100-S/2001/754; A/ES-10/101-S/2001/783; A/ES-10/102-S/2001/785;

A/ES-10/103-S/2001/798; A/ES-10/104-S/2001/812; A/ES-10/105-S/2001/814; A/ES-10/107-S/2001/821; A/ES-10/108-S/2001/826; A/ES-10/111-S/2001/880; A/ES-10/112-S/2001/918; A/ES-10/114-S/2001/928; A/ES-10/115-S/2001/932; A/ES-10/116-S/2001/941; A/ES-10/117-S/2001/971; A/ES-10/118-S/2001/989; A/ES-10/119-S/2001/991; A/ES-10/121-S/2001/1007; A/ES-10/122-S/2001/1024; A/ES-10/123-S/2001/1036; A/ES-10/124-S/2001/1084; A/ES-10/125-S/2001/1092; A/ES-10/126-S/2001/1118; A/ES-10/128-S/2001/1149; A/ES-10/129-S/2001/1166; A/ES-10/133-S/2001/1239; A/ES-10/134-S/2001/1261; A/ES-10/136-S/2002/18; A/ES-10/137-S/2002/39; A/ES-10/138-S/2002/48; A/ES-10/139-S/2002/58; A/ES-10/140-S/2002/89; A/ES-10/141-S/2002/95; A/ES-10/142-S/2002/102; A/ES-10/143-S/2002/121; A/ES-10/144-S/2002/142; A/ES-10/145-S/2002/146; A/ES-10/146-S/2002/165; A/ES-10/147-S/2002/175; A/ES-10/148-S/2002/182; A/ES-10/149-S/2002/186; A/ES-10/150-S/2002/214; A/ES-10/151-S/2002/223; A/ES-10/152-S/2002/232; A/ES-10/154-S/2002/242; A/ES-10/155-S/2002/248; A/ES-10/156-S/2002/249; A/ES-10/157-S/2002/253, A/ES-10/158-S/2002/258; A/ES-10/159-S/2002/281; A/ES-10/160-S/2002/307; A/ES-10/161-S/2002/319; A/ES-10/162-S/2002/330; A/ES-10/163-S/2002/340; A/ES-10/164-S/2002/353; A/ES-10/165-S/2002/356; A/ES-10/166-S/2002/370; A/ES/10/167-S/2002/433; A/ES-10/168-S/2002/474; A/ES-10/169-S/2002/495; A/ES-10/173-S/2002/536; A/ES-10/174-S/2002/555; A/ES-10/175-S/2002/610; A/ES-10/176-S/2002/617; A/ES-10/177-S/2002/641; A/ES-10/178-S/2002/650; A/ES-10/179-S/2002/654; A/ES-10/180-S/2002/686; A/ES-10/181-S/2002/697; A/ES-10/182-S/2002/699; A/ES-10/183-S/2002/717; and A/ES-10/184-S/2002/738), it is my profound regret to inform you that since my last letter to you, at least 35 more Palestinians, including women and children, have been killed by Israeli occupying forces, raising the total number of Palestinian martyrs killed since 28 September 2000 to 1,705 people. (The names of the martyrs that have been identified thus far are contained in the annex to the present letter.)

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nasser **Al-Kidwa**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations

Annex to the identical letters dated 23 July 2002 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Names of martyrs killed by Israeli occupying forces in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem* (Wednesday, 10 July-Tuesday, 23 July 2002)

Wednesday, 10 July 2002

1. Rami Odeh Al-Katash

Thursday, 11 July 2002

1. Zohair Tawfik Awad
2. Majdi Mahmoud Abu Hajeb

Friday, 12 July 2002

1. Mo'een Ali Al-Adeeny (13 years old)
2. Khaled Jamal Al-Khateeb
3. Imad Subhi Abu Zuhra
4. Mahmoud Hassan Abu Shosha
5. Jamal Yousef Odeh

Sunday, 14 July 2002

1. Ghazi Jamal Abu Ebyat
2. Nidal Ahmed Al-Amody

Monday, 15 July 2002

1. Mahmoud Samer Abdelrahman Helal

Wednesday, 17 July 2002

1. Bashar Hantoli (18 years old)

Thursday, 18 July 2002

1. Ammer Hantoli
2. Ahmed Abu Ridaha (8 years old)
3. Fadi Al-Ejel (18 years old)
4. Annas Abu Elba

* The total number of Palestinian martyrs killed by Israeli occupying forces since 28 September 2000 is 1,705.

Saturday, 20 July 2002

1. Abdel Abu Shabbab

Monday, 22 July 2002

1. Imad Abu Eisha

Tuesday, 23 July 2002

1. Salah Shehada
2. Leila Shehada (wife of Mr. Shehada)
3. Iman Salah Shehada (14 years old — daughter of Mr. Shehada)
4. Zaher Nassar
5. Mona Al-Huwaity
6. Mohammed Al-Huwaity (3 years old)
7. Subhi Al-Huwaity (4 years old)
8. Mohammed Al-Shawwa
9. Ahmad Al-Shawwa (5 years old)
10. Iman Mattar
11. Dunya Mattar (2 months old)
12. Diana Mattar (5 years old)
13. Mohammed Mattar (4 years old)
14. Ayman Mattar (2 years old)
15. Ala' Mattar (11 years old)
16. Ahmed Ayesh
17. Tamer Abu Irmana

United Nations S/2002/828

Security Council

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23 July 2002
English
Original: Arabic

Letter dated 23 July 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

In my capacity as Chairman of the Arab Group for the month of July 2002 and on behalf of the States Members of the League of Arab States, I have the honour to request the convening of an immediate meeting of the Security Council to consider the continued Israeli military aggression against the Palestinian People and the Palestinian Authority, and the extremely grave and deteriorating situation in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, with a view to ensuring the implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions. The Arab Group requests the Security Council to consider the adoption of the necessary immediate measures to ensure an end to the current tragic situation and the implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions.

(*Signed*) Fawzi **Shobokshi**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Saudi Arabia
Chairman of the Arab Group

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United Nations A/56/1012–S/2002/829

General Assembly
Security Council

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General Assembly
Fifty-sixth session
Agenda items 42 and 166

Security Council
Fifty-seventh year

The situation in the Middle East

Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Letter dated 23 July 2002 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Since October 2000, Israel has persisted, in successive letters addressed to you by its Permanent Representative, in slandering Lebanon. In its most recent letter Israel alleges that there are elements of al-Qa`idah in Lebanon and that the Lebanese Hizb Allah is engaging in acts of terrorism. The latest mendacious allegation is contained in the letter dated 8 July 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Israel addressed to you and issued as document A/56/1001-S/2002/743 to which Lebanon wishes to respond as follows:

1. The allegations by Israel that Hizb Allah has shelled civilian locations are entirely untrue; in its resistance to the continuing Israeli occupation of the Shab`a farmlands, Hizb Allah targets only the Israeli military occupying Lebanese territory. If Hizb Allah has launched anti-aircraft missiles, it has done so only against Israeli military aircraft that were violating Lebanese airspace as part of Israel's ongoing provocation of Lebanon. It is that that threatens peace and security in the region.

2. Lebanon is complying fully with the relevant United Nations resolutions and is fully cooperating with the Security Council in the implementation of resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism. Lebanon was fighting terrorism in its territory prior to 11 September 2001 when the Lebanese army came into conflict with local forces listed as being engaged in international terrorism and was able to eliminate them. Since 11 September 2001 Lebanon has been cooperating closely with the United Nations and with the international community to combat any terrorist presence or activity in its territory. The undeclared purpose of Israel's allegations to the effect that Lebanon is harbouring elements of al-Qa`idah is to slander Lebanon, threaten its security and stability and distract attention from Israel's continuing occupation of part of Lebanese territory, namely the Shab`a farmlands, as well as to justify its violent and unrelenting aggression against the Palestinian people. Lebanon, which has itself suffered from acts of terrorism, has consistently stated its clear opposition to such acts and the President and Prime

02-49376 (E) 240702 240702

Minister of the Lebanese Republic were among the first to condemn the terrorist action against New York on 11 September 2001.

3. Lebanon has always insisted on the obligation of all to implement the relevant United Nations resolutions, whether adopted by the Security Council or by the General Assembly, because it has a direct and definite interest in the implementation of those resolutions, whereas Israel, for a period of over 22 years, has refused to implement Security Council resolution 425 (1978) and still refuses to abide by the relevant United Nations resolutions by continuing to occupy the Shab`a farmlands, just as it refuses to implement General Assembly resolution 194 (III).

4. By its mendacious calumnies against Lebanon, Israel is attempting to cover up the provocative acts of aggression that it commits against Lebanon such as its repeated violations of Lebanese airspace and territorial waters. Lebanon has persistently drawn attention to this in the many letters it has addressed to you calling on the Security Council and the international community to assume their responsibilities and to request Israel to desist from its provocations against Lebanon and to comply with the relevant international resolutions and implement them fully.

5. The area between Naqoura and the Shab`a farmlands has been entirely peaceful since 25 May 2000 and the Lebanese Government is working to ensure that it remains peaceful; the Internal Security Forces and the Police are carrying out their duties very effectively. The isolated act last April was carried out by an armed group that was not Lebanese and was the result of an emotional reaction by the population to the excessively violent Israeli attacks against the Palestinian people. In any event, the Lebanese authorities dealt with that isolated incident at the time, thus ensuring continued tranquillity and stability in the area which was disturbed only by the above-mentioned ongoing provocations by Israel in the form of violations of Lebanese airspace and territorial waters and the opening, by elements of the Israeli armed forces, of the crossing point in the Kafr Killa area and their entry into Lebanese territory from which they withdrew only after the arrival of elements of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).

6. The continuing Israeli occupation of the Shab`a farmlands and of the Syrian Golan Heights and its reoccupation of numerous towns and areas of the Palestinian Authority are a cause of instability and a threat to peace and security in the region. Furthermore, Israel's disregard of the principles of the Madrid Conference, in particular the principle of land for peace, and its refusal to implement the relevant resolutions of the United Nations are bringing the Middle East region as a whole back to square one, in other words to a time prior to the convening of the Madrid Conference which began under the auspices of the United States of America and the Soviet Union with a view to completely ending the conflict in the Middle East and ushering in a just and comprehensive peace based on the implementation of the relevant international resolutions which Israel has persisted in ignoring and refusing to implement.

7. Israel endeavours to present itself as being a participant in the campaign to combat terrorism, whereas in fact, since 1948, it has been conducting terrorist operations against the Palestinian people and against civilians in the territories it has occupied. It has become clear that these actions are war crimes which make its officials liable to be indicted by the International Criminal Court.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly under items 42 and 166 of its agenda, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Houssam Asaad **Diab**
Chargé d'affaires

United Nations S/2002/830

Security Council

Distr.: General
24 July 2002

Original: English

Letter dated 24 July 2002 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to request that, in accordance with its previous practice, the Security Council invite the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations to participate in the meeting of the Council to be held today, Wednesday, 24 July 2002, regarding the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem.

(*Signed*) Dr. Nasser **Al-Kidwa**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations

02-49516 (E) 240702

United Nations S/2002/831

Security Council

Distr.: General
24 July 2002

Original: English

Letter dated 24 July 2002 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to request the Security Council to extend an invitation, under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure, to Mr. Yahya Mahmassani, Permanent Observer of the League of Arab States to the United Nations, to participate in the meeting of the Council to be held on Wednesday, 24 July 2002, on the situation in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem.

(*Signed*) Dr. Mikhail **Wehbe**
Ambassador

02-49522 (E) 240702

United Nations S/2002/832

Security Council

Distr.: General
25 July 2002
English
Original: French

Letter dated 25 July 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Morocco to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

The Security Council will undertake consultations on 26 July 2002 to decide on one of the options proposed by the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy in the report of 19 February 2002 (S/2002/178). The Kingdom of Morocco would like to recall that it agreed to negotiate on the basis of the framework agreement, in conformity with the recommendation made by the Security Council in resolution 1359 (2001) of 29 June 2001, while the other two parties, Algeria and the Frente POLISARIO, categorically rejected it.

A draft resolution was circulated on 22 July 2002 among the members of the Security Council to give a clear mandate to Mr. Baker to present a revised framework agreement and we remain ready, in this context, to do our utmost for the success of the Personal Envoy's mission.

However, we have just been informed of an amendment to the operative part of the draft resolution aimed at confusing the mandate by asking the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy, contrary to their own wishes, to propose a fifth option by combining option 1 (settlement plan) and option 2 (framework agreement).

To the extent that it sets out to amalgamate two irreconcilable options, this approach is doomed to failure. Indeed, it could only jeopardize the opportunities to reach, in a near future, a lasting settlement of the issue of Western Sahara.

The Kingdom of Morocco wishes to inform you that it can only participate to a clear and unambiguous exercise.

I should be grateful if you would bring the content of this letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council and have it issued as a document of the Council.

(*Signed*) Mohamed **Bennouna**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

02-49775 (E) 260702 260702